

GJS:JSMc
65-6766

New York, N. Y.
May 9, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT--GIU AGENT;
LUDWIG LORE--INFORMANT

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter of November 13, 1940, concerning information that might be obtained from Ludwig Lore relative to an alleged GIU agent in the United States.

Mr. Lore was interviewed by Special Agent George J. Starr on May 8, 1941, after previous telephone conversations and unsuccessful efforts to make an appointment. Mr. Lore said that it is his belief that there are a large number of Russian agents operating in this country. It should be noted, however, that Mr. Lore also holds to other beliefs popular with the violently anti-Communist group here; for example, he apparently is firmly convinced that General W. G. Krivitsky was either murdered by the GIU or else committed suicide under duress.

As to the GIU agent mentioned by Lore, as reported by Confidential Informant [redacted] in his report of September 16, 1940, Mr. Lore said he does not feel at liberty to disclose the man's name without his permission, which he will endeavor to obtain. He did indicate in the course of his conversation with Agent Starr that the man, who is a native born American and married, has two children, probably about eight and eleven years of age. The subject is employed on the editorial staff of a popular magazine or other periodical, which is edited or published by a man who is a playwright, as is also his wife.

The subject is fearful that if he comes forward with the true story of the GIU activities in the United States, he will find himself in serious trouble, because of what he himself has done in that line of work. That, of course, is what he wants to protect himself against.

As to the subject's significance in the GIU picture here, Mr. Lore says that the man had contacts with two girls who were private

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Att to WC-3

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secretaries to Assistant Secretaries of State and with a girl who was employed in a secretarial capacity with one of the high officials of the Department of Commerce. From the latter the subject got all necessary statistical data. According to Mr. Lore, the practice in preparing confidential correspondence in the State Department is to write up letters in triplicate (one original, two carbon copies). The completed work and the shorthand notes are brought to the office of the particular Assistant Secretary of State who dictated the letter, and the shorthand notes are there destroyed. According to what Mr. Lore learned from the GPU agent mentioned, the girls would write up two extra copies of pertinent letters, which would be delivered to this man. This man was in the position of what he termed a supervisor, and had some seventy GPU agents or other people working under his supervision here.

According to Mr. Lore, the Russian Government spends an enormous amount of money for espionage or investigative work in the United States. He mentioned that on one occasion he arranged for an agent to meet a newspaperman at Washington (this was during the presence here of L. C. A. K. Martens), and an arrangement was made for the Soviet agent to pay the newspaperman \$100 weekly merely for furnishing in written form the news which had emanated from the State Department and which had not been published in the newspapers. This went on for a number of weeks, and according to Mr. Lore, the material was absolutely valueless. Mr. Lore also mentioned that on one occasion, at about the same time, one of the Soviet agents who came here supplied himself with a stock of gifts to pass out to people to put them under obligation to him, so that they would be friendly and give him information. The man had great quantities of bottles of the highest priced perfumes, of excellent (and expensive) Swiss watches, and other similar items.

It is anticipated that all of this information will be gone into in more detail at a future interview. At the interview just had with Mr. Lore no notes were made by Agent Starr. It was a rather general conversation dealing with various topics, and much of it was not confined to the development of information bearing upon the national welfare of the United States or the possible violation of any Federal law coming within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau. At the end of the interview it was agreed that Mr. Lore would approach his man and ascertain if he would come forward and talk with Agent Starr or any one else in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that in the meantime neither Mr. Lore nor Agent Starr would discuss the matter with any one else.

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With reference to the situation within the Government departments and agencies, Mr. Lore said that he understood that a list of persons who are Communists or who are pro-Soviet to the extent that their employment in the Government service is a serious menace had been submitted to the President and has been on his desk for several weeks, but that nothing has been done about it. This information is alleged to have originated with the man concerning whom Mr. Lore was being interviewed, and he, the former GIP agent, had the list delivered to the President through some trusted friend who had the necessary contact.

With reference to this same man, Mr. Lore said that the man advised that his case had been discussed with the Director of this Bureau some six or seven months ago, he believed, and that when the intermediary suggested that the man wanted some sort of immunity guaranteed before exposing himself, the Director stated that no such agreement could be entered into. It should be noted that, according to Mr. Lore, the subject has no actual knowledge whether this matter was discussed with the Director personally or with some other official of the Bureau.

Agent Starr is to communicate with Mr. Lore within about ten days from May 8, 1941, by which time the latter hopes to have established contact and obtained some definite answer from the former GIP agent referred to. In the meantime it is respectfully requested that the New York office be informed whether there is any record of the discussion of this matter with the Director about six or seven months ago, as is indicated above.

Very truly yours,

T. J. DONOGAN, Acting for
E. J. CONNELLEY, Assistant
Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
May 14, 1941

EAT:DEP

Time 9:15 A.M.

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Ex

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I called the New York Office and talked with Special Agent Donegan with reference to their letter of May 9, 1941, a copy of which is attached, regarding Ludwig Lore.

I told Mr. Donegan you desired that the New York Office press this matter with a view in mind toward getting the identity of the individual who is supposed to have been the Gestapo agent, that we have no knowledge of the man who is supposed to have had the intermediary approach you, that you have no recollection of any such overtures having been made although the position you are supposed to have taken would be the position you would take.

I told Agent Donegan you have known Lore for approximately twenty years and do not think Agent Starr is the ideal man to deal with him. Agent Donegan stated he believes Special Agent H. O. Hawkins would be able to handle the contact satisfactorily and I told him to have Agent Hawkins take over without pushing Agent Starr out of the picture immediately, to have Agent Hawkins work with Agent Starr over a period of time and let him gradually take over.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

Attachment

W.C.
② FBI pre-148 investig's
③ WC-1942 st.

1-p memo w/att.
re FBI efforts to
identify Lore's informant
w/ 3-p. att.

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